Miscellany Page.

UNAVAILING.

It's kind o' hard to understand the case
of Ezry Jones.
We thought that he'd grow up to be a
reg'lar lazy bones.
But his father felt quite hopeful when
he saw him out one day
A-tollin' with a golf stick an' declarin'
it was play.
He'd stop an' hit that little ball a most
tremendous lick
An' then he'd run up hill an' down, all
on the double quick.
To see him so industr'ous done his
folks a heap o' good.
It's plain he isn't lazy; but he
won't
chop
wood.
He started in for ping pong, an' his
enterprise was such
The doctor said as how he'd have to
quit or use a crutch.
An' as fur pool an' billards, I have seen
him, I declare,
A-tollin' hard fur hours an' holdin' one
foot in the air.
The neighbors when they used to go a
visitin' would brag
About the scientific way he hit the
punchin' bag.
But there's jes' one thing about him
that we never understood;
He's got a heap o' muscle but he
won't
chop
wood.
You'd think that any one with such a
wonderful right arm
Would look on it as fun to help a bit
around the farm.
He never sits down idle from the dawn
till set o' sun;
There's allus somethin' doin', but he
don't git nothin' done.
An' Ezry ain't the only one whose
talents goes astray.
You see a lot o' folks a-keepin' busy,
day by day;
You look for them to do things; you
are certain that they could;
But at last they disapp'int you' 'cause
they
won't
chop
wood.

WEST INDIAN TROPICS.

How Snakes and Ants Keep Life From Getting Stagnant.

In view of the probable cession of the Danish West Indies to the United States the following from a correspondent of the Brooklyn Eagle has interest. The tropics, as we have already discovered, have their drawbacks as well as their advantages. You have peace of mind here in American Denmark that you cannot have in the British and French possessions, for here you will find no snakes. The fer de lance, that crawling poison, that sneaking crime, does not exist for little Denmark. The mongoose has been introduced, and he has effectually cleared every island of serpents, when the people have left him alone. He prefers snakes to any other diet, but the trouble is that when the mongoose has finished the snakes he keeps his appetite, and nothing then will do but hens. Hence, as it were, you find notices posted about the lower settlements offering rewards of five or ten cents, or some small matter, for each mongoose brought into headquarters. He has done his work well, and now he is to be killed for it.

Yet, if you miss the snakes you can have excitement with ants. They have nearly all varieties. There are the white ones that make nests of remarkable size, and get themselves into the papers because they are so large and active; there are the whitish ones that riddle the posts and beams of houses, so that some morning, while you are at breakfast, the whole concern comes tumbling about your ears, and is nothing but a dust fall at that; there is the "wild Irishman," a black ant that is insultingly said to be "almost harmless"; there are the microscopic critters that get into your bread and beans and float about in your cocktails and coffee and are altogether pervasive, and that when in multitudes are objected to on account of their acid flavor; and there are the "biting ants," that you put on with your pajamas and shirts, and that let you know where they are, so that you arise and say in company what you ought not, and fill the company with wonder—as to why you will not drink tea instead of other things. Of these ants the timber eaters are counted the worst, for it is so unpleasant to have the church fall down in the middle of a sermon and to have the grocery cave in just as the boy is wrapping up the prunes and the canned butter for your dinner.

FINDS IN THE HOLY LAND.

Professor Sellin has addressed to the Academy of Science a very interesting report of the excavations he has been making in Palestine. His first discovery, the walls of Taanak, the old Canaanitish city, has been followed by that of the walls and gate of one of Solomon's castles. Dr. Sellin has had a very careful plan of this latter excavation drawn up, for it is the first time that one of the castles so often referred to in the Bible as having been built by the Israelitish kings, has been unearthed. In excavating a burial place for Israelitish children, an altar hewn out of the hard rock was brought to light. Finally, the professor has struck such a rich mine of pre-Israelitish remains that it will now be possible to form an accurate judgment of the degree of civilization of the primitive dwellers in the land.

SAMOAN WAYS.

Sixpence is the lowest unit of value. If any article is too cheap to stand the price of sixpence (and there are very few such at these trading stations) the Samoan must buy a quantity or else take matches for change. The islanders have the knack of making fire seemingly without exertion by rubbing two sticks together, but they are keen after matches, although the Swedish safety matches made .n Japan which pass current in the Pacific ocean are probably the most incombustible matchse made, certain not to light off the box, and extremely uncertain to light on it. All this petty trade spreads itself lazily along throughout the morning. Sometimes the payment was in small silver coins, each piece snuggled away in its own knot in a strip of cloth. Sometimes again it was necessary to weigh the basket of copra proffered in payment, and to dispute that it had been fairly dried for three days in the sun, and to be careful not to count in the weighing the big stone which will get in the middle of so many of the baskets of copra in which these innocent children of nature deal.

THE STENOGRAPHER'S REVENGE.

The shorthand reporters of Sydney, N. S. W., having been found fault with for their method of reporting the speeches in the legislative council, retaliated by giving the speech of one of the councilors exactly as it was spoken, as follows: "The reporters—ought not to—the reporters ought not to be the ones to judge of what is important—not to say what should be left out—but—the member can only judge of what is important. As a—as my speeches—as the reports—as what I say is reported sometimes, no one—nobody can understand from the reports—what it is—what I mean. So—it strikes me—it has struck me certain matters—things that appear of importance—are sometimes left out—omitted. The reporters—the papers—points are reported—I mean—to make a brief statement—what the paper thinks of interest—is reported."

TO SUPPRESS FISH FLIES.

Attorney Woodward, of La Crosse, intends to appear before the next Wisconsin legislature to urge a bill for the prosecution of fish lies. U cmfwyppp suppression of fish lies. The fisherman, by this bill, is compelled to register the weight of his catch with the town or county clerk. Attorney Woodward is all right as far as he goes, but one paper thinks there should be a provision that any mention of "the large one that got away" should be a felony, carrying a heavy fine. The county clerk, it insists, should also be warned to look out lest the fisherman fill the cavity of the fish with lead and make it weigh more. A man who will lie about so simple a thing as the weight of a fish would not be above putting one foot on the scales when the clerk wasn't looking.

NEEDED ANIMAL FOOD.

It is related of an Irish coachman that his medical adviser prescribed animal food as the best means of restoring health and activity. "Patrick," says he, "you're run down a bit, that's all. What you need is animal food." Remembering his case a few days afterward, he called upon Pat at the stable. "Well, Pat," said he, "how are you getting on with the treatment?" "Oh, shure, sir," Pat replied, "Oi manage all right with the grain and oats, but it's mighty hard with the chopped hay."

HENRY IS A MUSICIAN.

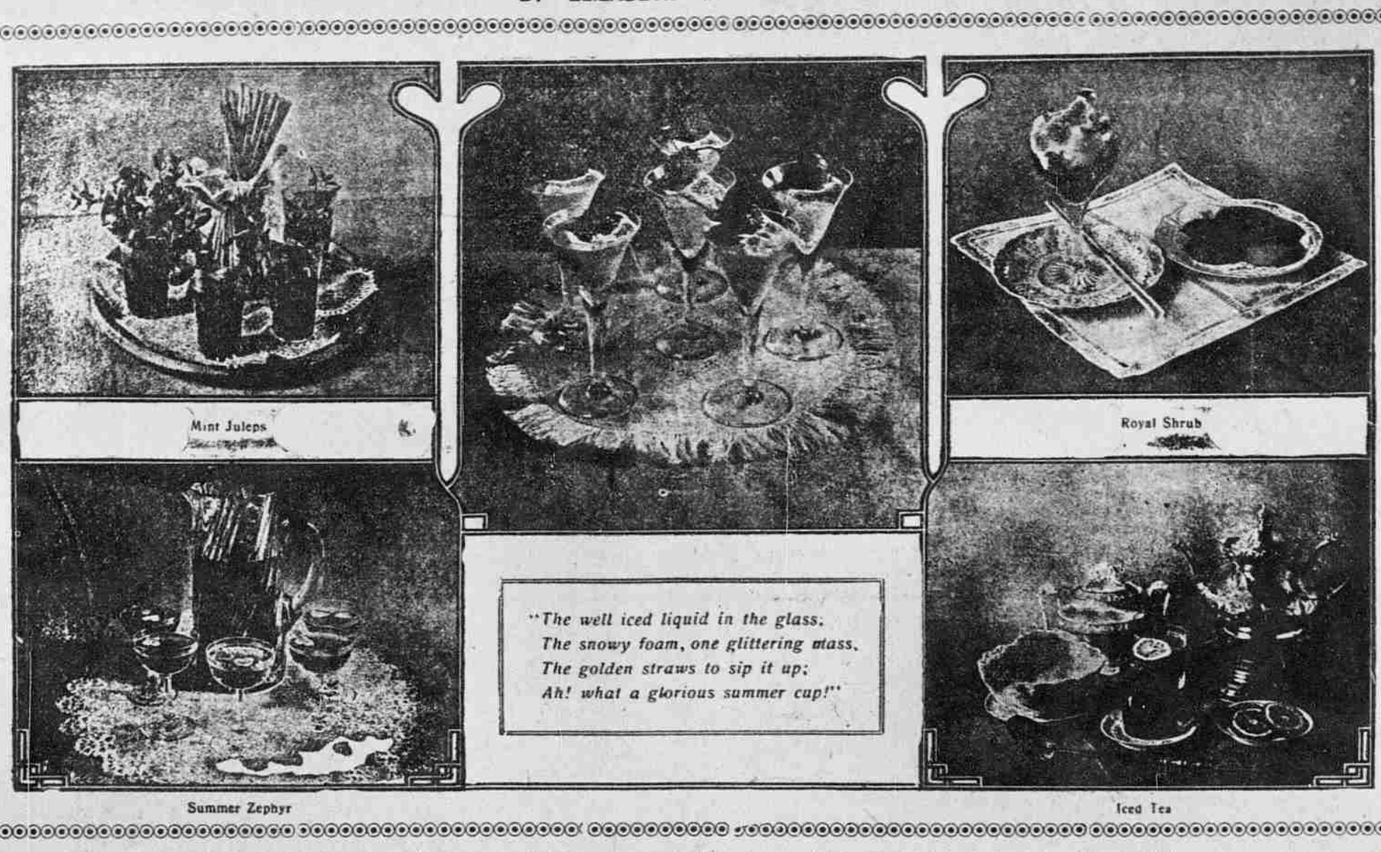
Prince Henry of Prussia, among his other accomplishments, is an earnest student of music. He has arranged with a Leipsic firm to publish a gavotte which he has composed during the leisure hours spent upon his flagship.

ALEXANDRA AS A DRESSMAKER.

Queen Alexandra of England was brought up in a very sensible manner and learned dressmaking so thoroughly that today she could, if need were, make even some of the most elaborate of her gowns.

COOL BEVERAGES FOR SUMMER DAYS

BY ELIZABETH W. MORRISON.



One always associates tinkling ice and crystal with warm weather, and there is nothing more appreciated by a "weather-worn" and thirsty guest than a home brew of some cooling, non-intoxicating beverage.

Summer drinks should be served from crystal pitchers and in thin glasses. One can buy such pretty articles in pressed glass nowadays that heavy earthenware receptacles and thick, inartistic glasses are out of place and inexcusable.

The simplest lemonade tastes better when sipped through straws. A box of one hundred straws may be purchased for a small sum, and they are well worth the investment.

Iced tea is a favored beverage for summer tables, but the recipe given here is as unlike that usually masquerading under this title as black is from white.

ICED TEA.—Fill thin glasses full of shaved ice, placing a thin slice of lemon on top of each and also one teaspoonful of powdered sugar. Brew a strong pot of tea and pour into the glasses over the ice. There will be not be any danger of breaking them, as the ice cools the tea immediately, and herein lies the secret of the delicious flavor obtained.

MINT JULEP.—The original concoction from which this drink derives its name was first invented in the South and can only be indulged in by those who have become acclimated, as it is made of rum and brandy undiluted, excepting for a little fine ice. The recipe given here can be partaken of without any serious results. Place one tablespoonful each of red raspberry, lemon, orange juices and dry sherry in glasses filled with shaved ice; arrange sprigs of mint in each one and serve with straws. The amount given is for small glasses and should be increased according to the size of glasses used. The ice may not dilute this mixture quite sufficiently; water can be added.

ROYAL SHRUB.—For one glass use three tablespoonfuls of strained red currant juice, two tablespoonfuls of pineapple juice, produced by cooking the fruit in sugar and water; fill with seltzer water. Add one tablespoonful of sugar; place tablespoonful of whipped cream on top. The fruit juices and seltzer must be ice cold, otherwise a tablespoonful of shaved ice must be placed in each glass.

SUMMER ZEPHYR.—Cut one and one-half pounds of rhubarb into thin slices, cover with water and add one bay leaf, one stick of paper bark cinnamon; simmer until rhubarb is tender, then strain; add to the juice one cupful of sugar and simmer ten minutes; then add one pint of orange juice, the juice of three lemons, half cupful of preserved ginger juice; place shaved ice in a tall pitcher and add the cooled concoction. In each glass place a halved strawberry or cherries, or any seasonable fruit.

MR. DOOLEY ON MODERN PROGRESS.

(Copyright, 1902, by Robert Howard Russell.)

Mr. Dooley was reading from a paper. "'We live,' he says, 'in an age iv wondhers. Niver befure in th' histhry iv th' wurruld has such pro-gress been made.'

"Thrue wurruds an' often spoken. Even in me time things has changed. Whin I was a la-ad Long Jawn Wintworth cud lean his elbows on th' highest buildin' in this town. It took two months to come here fr'm Pittsburg on a limited raft an' a stage coach that run fr'm La Salle to Mrs. Murphy's hotel. They wasn't anny tillygraft that I can raymimber an' th' sthreet car was pulled be a mule an' dhruv be an engineer be th' name iv Mulligan. We thought we was a pro-gressive people. Ye bet we did. But look at us today! I go be Casey's house tonight an' there it is a fine storey-an'-a-half frame house with Casey settin' on th' dure sthep dhrinkin' out iv a pail. I go be Casey's house tomorrah an' it's a hole in th' groun'. I rayturn to Casey's house on Thursdah an' it's a fifty-eight storey buildin' with a mortgedge onto it an' they're thinkin' iv takin' it down an' replacin' it with a modhren sthructure. Th' shoes that Corrigan, th' cobbler wanst wurruked on f'r a week, hammerin' away like a woodpecker, is now tossed out be th' dozens fr'm th' mouth iv a masheen. A cow goes lowin' softly into Armours an' comes out glue, beef, gelatine, fertyilzer, celooloid, joolry, sofy cushions, hair restorers, washin' sody, soup, lithrachoor an' bed springs so quick that while aft she's still cow, for'ard she may be annything fr'm buttons to Pannyma hats. I can go fr'm Chicago to New York in twinty hours, but I don't have to, thank th' Lord.

"Thirty years ago we thought 'twas marvelous to be able to tillygraft a man in Saint Joe an' get an answer that night. Now, be wireless tillygraft, ye can get an answer befure ye sind th' tillygram if they ain't careful. Me frind Marconi has done that. Be manes of his wondher iv science a man on a ship in mid-ocean can sind a tillygram to a man on shore, if he has a confidrate on board. That's all he needs. Be mechanical science an' thrust in th' operator annywan can set on th' shore iv Noofoundland an' chat with a frind in th' County Kerry.

"Yes, sir, mechanical science has made gr-reat sthrides. Whin I was a young man we used to think Hor'ce Greeley was the gr-reatest livin' American. He was a gran' man, a gran' man with feathers beneath his chin an' specks on his nose like th' windows in a diver's hemlet. His polyticks an' mine cuddent live in th' same neighborhood but he was a gran' man, all th' same. We used to take th' Cleveland Plain Daler in them days f'r raycreation an' the New York Thrybune f'r exercise. 'Twas conshidered a test iv a good natured Dimmycrat if he could read an article in the Thrybune without havin' to do th' stations iv th' cross afterward f'r what he said. I almost did wanst but they was a line at th' ind about a frind iv mine be th' name iv Andhrew Jackson, an' I went out an' broke up a Methodist prayer meetin.' He was th' boy that cud put it to ye so that if ye voted th' Dimmycratic tickit it was jus' th' same demandin' a place in purgytory. Th' farmers wud plant annything fr'm a ruty baga to a Congressman on his advice. He niver had money enough to buy a hat, but he cud go to th' Sicrity iv th' Threasury an' tell him who's pitcher to put on th' useful valentines we thrade f'r groceries.

"But if Hor'ce Greeley was alive today where'd he be? Settin' on three inches iv th' edge iv a chair in th' outside office iv me frind Pierpont Morgan waitin' f'r his turn. In th' line is the Imp'ror iv Germany, th' new cook, th' prisidint iv a railroad, th' cap'n iv th' yacht, Rimbrandt th' painther, Jawn W. Gates, an' Hor'ce. Afther a while th' boy at th' dure says: 'Ye're next, ol' party. Sthep lively f'r th' boss has had a Weehawken Peerooginy sawed off on him this mornin' an' he mustn't be kept waitin'.' An' th' iditor goes in.

"'Who ar-re ye?' says the gr-reat man, givin' him a wan iv thim piercin' looks that whin a man gets it he has to be sewed up at wanst.

"'I'm ye'er iditor,' says Hor'ce.

"'Which wan?' says Pierpont.

"'Number two hundhred an' eight.'

"'What's ye'er spichility?'

"'Tahriff an' th' improvemint iv th' wurruld,' says Hor'ce.

"'See Perkins,' says Pierpont, an' th' interview is over.

"Now what's made th' change? Mechanical Science, Hinnissy. Some wan put up a masheen that puts steel billets within th' reach iv all. Hince Charlie Schwab.

"What's it done f'r th' wurruu? says ye. It's done evrything. It's give us fast ships an' an autymatic hist f'r to' nod, an' small flats an a taste iv solder in th' peaches. If anybody says th' wurruld ain't betther off thin it was, tell him that a masheen has been invinted that makes honey out iv pethrolyum. If he asts ye why they ain't anny Shakespeares today, say: 'No, but we no longer make sausages be hand.'

"'Tis pro-gress. We live in a cinchry iv pro-gress an' I thank th' Lord I've seen most iv it. Man an' boy I've lived pretty near through this wondherful age. If I was proud I cud say I seen more thin Julius Caesar iver see or cared to. An' here I am, I'll not say how old, still pushin' th' malt acrost th' counther at me thirsty counthrymen. All around me is th' refinements iv mechanical janius.

"Instead iv broachin' th' beer kag with a club an' adhrawin' th' beer through a fassit as me Puritan forefathers done, I have that wondher iv invintive science th' beer pump. I cheat mesilf with a cash raygisther. I cut off th' end iv me good cigar with an injaynous device an' pull th' cork out iv a bottle with a conthrivance that wud've made that frind that Hogan boasts about, that ol' boy Archy Meeds, think they was witchcraft in th' house. Science has been a great blessin' to me. But amidst all these granjoors here am I th' same ol' antiquated combination iv bellows an' pump I always was. Not so good. Time has worn me out. Th' years like little boys with jackknives has carved their names in me top. Ivry day I have to write off something f'r deprecyation. 'Tis about time f'r whoiver owns me to wurruk me off on a thrust. Mechanical science has done ivrything f'r me but help me. I suppose I ought to feel supeeryor to me father. He niver see a high buildin', but he didn't want to. He cudden't come here in five days, but he was a wise man an' if he cud've come in three he'd have stayed in th' County Roscommon.

"Th' pa-apers tells me that midical science has kept pace with th' hop-skip-an'-a-jump iv mechanical ingynooty. Th' doctors has found th' mickrobe iv evrything fr'm lumbago to love, an' fr'm jandice to jealousy, but if a brick bounces on me head I'm crated up th' same as iv' yore an' put away. Rockyfellar can make a pianny out iv a bar'l iv crude ile, but no wan has been able to make a blade iv hair grow on Rockyfellar. They was a doctor over in France that discovered a kind iv a thing that if 'twas pumped into ye wud make ye live till people got so tired iv seein ye around they cud scream. He died th' nex' year iv premachure ol' age. They was another wan cud insure whether th' nex' wan wud be a boy or a girl. All ye had to do was to decide wud it be Arthur or Ethel an' lave him know. He left a fam'ly iv unmarredgeable daughters.

"I sometimes wondher whether progress is anny more thin a kind iv a shift. It's like a merry-go-round. We get up on a speckled wooden horse an' th' mechanical pianny plays a chune an' away we go, hollerin.' We think we're thravellin' like th' divvle, but th' man that doesn't care about merry-go-round knows that we will come back where we were. We get out dizzy an' sick an' lay on th' grass an' gasp: 'Where am I? Is this th' meelin'-yum?' An' he says: 'No, 'tis Ar-rchey Road.' Father Kelly says th' Agyptians done things we cudden't do, an' th' Romans put up sky-scrapers, an' even th' Chinks had tillyphones an' phony-grafts.

"I've been up to th' top iv th' very highest buildin' in town, Hinnissy, an' I wan't anny nearer Hivin thin if I was in th' sthreet. Th' stars was as far away as iver. An' down beneath is a lot iv us runnin' an' lapin' an' jumpin' about, pushin' each other over, haulin' little sthrips iv ir'n to pile up in little buildin's that ar-re called skyscrapers, but not be th' sky; wuddukin' night an' day to make a masheen that'll carry us fr'm wan jack-rabbit colony to another an' yellin', 'Pro-gress!' Pro-scrapers, but not be th' sky; wurrukin' at each other an' sayin': 'Ain't they funny! Don't they think they're playin' hell?'

"No, sir, masheens ain't done much f'r man. I can't get up anny kind iv fam'ly inthrest f'r a steam dredge or a hydhraulic hist. I want to see sky-scrapin' men. But I won't. We're about th' same hight as we always was th' same higth an' build, composed iv th' same inflammable and perishyable mateeryal, an exthra hazardous risk, unimproved an' li'ble to collapse. We do make pro-gress, but it's th' same kind Julyus Caesar made, an' ivry wan has made before or since, an' in this age iv masheenery we're still burrid be hand."

"What d'ye think iv th' man down in Pinnsylvania who says th' Lord an' him is partners in a coal mine?" asked Mr. Hennessey, who wanted to change the subject.

"Has he divided th' profits?" asked Mr. Dooley.

THE VISITING SHAH.

The papers point out the fact that the Shah's visit was a disappointment in one sense—he did not display the delightful but often embarrassing unconventionality with which his late father on his two visits took London by storm. The present Shah is a man of considerable education, even from the Western standpoint. Therefore he did not offer, as his father on more than one occasion did, to purchase even one of his charming hostesses from their husbands, although he admired and much praised the London policemen, and expressed a desire to buy a few of them. When his father visited London he was present at the golden wedding of Gladstone. In congratulating the venerable couple he remarked solemnly that while it was very fine to live fifty years with one wife, it was much finer to live one year with fifty wives. When taken to a sale of pictures, he also asked why one hundred pounds was asked for a picture of a donkey, while the animal itself could be had for as many shillings. "The picture needs neither hay nor barley, and costs nothing," was the reply. "Neither will it carry any load," replied the late Shah, and the joke is recorded in the Court Circular.

SCIENTIFIC

Sleep is produced by M. Stephane Leduc through the action of electric currents on the nerve centers, respiration and circulation being unaffected. A complete general anaesthesia can be thus obtained without any unpleasant after effects.

Of the 73,000,000 acres in the Philippine Islands, it is estimated that more than 6,000,000 are under cultivation and about 50,000,000 in forest. The native trees thus far enumerated embrace 665 species, and 160 different native woods entered the market last year.

A mechanical sculptor, a machine automatically duplicating statuary, is a remarkable adapation of the pantograph. The statue to be reproduced is placed upon a pedestal, where it is gone over by a small wheel on the end of a long arm, which connects with mechanism driving a cutter. A ball of clay is thus made into an exact copy.

The remarkable zebra hybrid from South Africa, lately acquired by the British Zoological Society is a pony bred from a cross between a zebra and a pony. It resembles a small pony. Its body is brown, and the striping is peculiar, the marks on the body being nearly vertical, while those on the limbs are horizontal to the hocks, below which the color is black.

A self-lighting cigar is tipped with a cap of ground glass, satpetre, potassium chlorate and gum arabic, and a frictional igniter is placed on the surface of the cap. On scratching the igniter, the cap burns freely and cannot be extinguished by an ordinary wind. The cap is rendered incandescent and the ground glass fused, so covering the end of the cigar that no unpleasant taste results.

In view of recent literary success: "What are you going to do with that boy of yours?" inquired the intimate friend. "I don't exactly know," answered the puzzled parent; "he evinces the most obstinate aversion to the usual forms of industry, and he uses language and expresses sentiments very shocking to the sensibilities of our friends. If he was a girl I would be tempted to put him at literature."—Washington Star.

The terror of the sea: "Save us! Save us!" shrieked the bathers, rushing to shore. Thinking that the sea serpent had appeared, the hotel proprietor and newspaper men rushed to the beach armed with cameras and pencils. But the elation turned to alarm when it was seen that the objejct of terror was Mr. M. Jeerpoint Porgan, who had arrived in his cruiser, and ordered the bathers out of his ocean.—Baltimore American.

In a new synthesis, Prof. Zinno produces tartaric acid by passing over potassium glycerate a current of carbonic acid gas under a pressure of about three atmospheres. The potassium glycerate is easily obtained by oxidizing glycerine by means of lead dioxide or minium and nitric acid, and then adding potassium carbonate to the boiling solution of the lead salt. It is thought that the new process should prove important on a large scale for the manufacture of cream of tartar.

The natural history student finds still many mysteries to solve. The whole question of the consciousness and intelligence of animals, says Lord Avebury, requires careful study, and there is hardly a single animal whose life history is fully known to us. The many problems of the flowers scarcely exceed in interest those of leaves and seeds. In fact, the problems which every pond and stream offer us are endless and most fascinating. There is no single substance in nature whose properties are fully known, and we seem to be on the threshold of great discoveries.

A curious growth on trees in Tierra del Fuego is known to the natives as "wooden flowers." It is produced by a parasitic plant, allied to the mistletoe, which develops from sticky seeds deposited by birds, and penetrates the bark and wood of the host. The flower-like excrescences, from an inch to two feet in diameter, are wood of the tree itself, as forced through the bark. The parasitic plant, unlike the mistletoe, weakens and often destroys the branch on which it lives, and it makes so intimate a union with the tree that in a transverse section it is almost impossible to tell where one plant ends and the other begins. The parasite lives not more than three or four years, its traces remaining much longer.

Chemical union through the mere presence of an apparently inactive substance is given renewed interest by the growing importance of catalysis in the arts. In the new process for making sulphuric acid, the combination of sulphurous acid and oxygen depends upon platinized asbestos, and it is a curious fact that this catalytic agent soon ceases to act unless the gases are carefully purified. By Deacon's chlorine process, the chlorine is liberated in great quantities by passing hydrochloric acid and air over hot copper chloride, which undergoes no change. In oxidizing sulphuretted hydrogen by passing it over a special form of oxide of iron, the latter becomes changed to pyrites without losing its catalytic properties, but ordinary pyrites is strangely lacking in such properties. Mr. J. T. Conroy attempts to explain the action of catalytic agents by supposing that they take part in intermediate reactions. When a current of ammonia, for example, is passed over red-hot soda amide it is broken up into its constituents; but this occurs through the amide decomposing into nitrogen, hydrogen and sodium, the latter in the presence of the ammonia re-forming the amide.

The race for publicity: "I shall never trust him again" said the statesman, bitterly. "But he has never failed to lend his influence in your behalf." "Nevertheless, he is a false friend." "What has he done?" "Snatched fame from my grasp. I told him a funny story, and he went and printed it as original before I had a chance to see an interviewer."—Washington Star.